

Three more measles cases reported

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Three more cases of measles have been reported in the Wiesbaden area according to health clinic officials at Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

As reported in the April 13 issue of the *Herald Union*, three cases were originally reported to have occurred in young children who were not immunized against the virus. Since then two more cases have been confirmed — one awaiting lab results.

"We had a tremendous response from the community following the immunization announcements," said Lt. Col. Ronald Keen, health clinic commander. Keen was referring to a vaccination campaign held earlier this month to ensure community awareness and update shot records.

"Overall we have given the vaccine to over 500 children," said Capt. Doug Badzik, family practice physician at the clinic.

"We are continuing to encourage parents of all children over the age of six months and

those who have only had one dose of the vaccine to bring their children to the immunization clinic," said Maj. James Lamphear, a pediatrician at the clinic.

The vaccine, typically referred to as the MMR, is a combination vaccine that protects against measles, mumps and rubella viruses.

Licensed in 1971, it contains the safest and most effective forms of each vaccine and lasts a lifetime in approximately 95 percent of children who receive it. A second dosage of the vaccine is recommended to protect those 5 percent who did not develop immunity in the first dose and to give a "booster" effect to those who did develop an immune response. The first dose of the vaccine is recommended for children 12-15 months of age with a second dose between 4 and 6 years of age.

"Measles is highly contagious and can be

spread by a person to 90 percent of their susceptible close contacts," said Badzik. Typically spread by coughing or sneezing, it can be transmitted up to four days before the onset of the rash to four days after the rash appears. The virus itself resides in the mucus in the nose and throat of an infected person.

When that person sneezes or coughs, droplets spray into the air. The infected mucus can land in other people's noses or throats when they breathe or put their fingers in the mouth or nose after handling an infected surface.

The virus remains active and contagious on infected surfaces for up to two hours.

Symptoms such as a rash, high fever, cough, runny nose and red, watery eyes can begin to appear 10-12 days after exposure to the virus and last about a week. The infected person first experiences a fever that can last

up to four days and peak as high as 105 degrees Fahrenheit. This is followed by the onset of a cough, runny nose and/or pink eye. The rash then can appear 14 days after exposure and last up to a week. The rash typically begins in the hairline and moves down to the face and upper neck, then down and outward reaching the hands and feet.

"Hopefully through the vaccination campaign, we were able to get everyone, and won't be seeing any new cases" said Badzik. However, now with three more cases, and a two-week incubation time, there's still a chance that more cases will be reported within the next few weeks.

To avoid being infected ensure you and your children are immunized. The Wiesbaden Immunization Clinic is open from 8-11:30 a.m. Monday through Wednesday; 1-4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, and from 1-5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

If you are unsure whether or not your child has already received the vaccination call the clinic at mil 337-5273 or civ (0611) 705-5273.

"We are continuing to encourage parents of all children over the age of six months and those who have only had one dose of the vaccine to bring their children to the immunization clinic." — Maj. James Lamphear

Free concert offers fun for all

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

The Charlie Daniels Band is coming to Wiesbaden May 6, and best of all, the performance is free.

Following a performance for the troops in Kosovo the band will be making a layover in Germany. The country rock band will perform at 6 p.m. at Hangar 1036 at Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

"This is really a great opportunity for our community," said Jean Morrison, community recreation director for Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

Although the concert doesn't begin until 6 p.m. the gate to the hangar will open to all U.S. identification card holders and local national employees at 3 p.m. Limited seating will be available and the public is encouraged to bring along their lawn chairs. No coolers will be permitted; however, food and beverages will be sold on site.

"We have plenty of activities to keep the family busy the entire afternoon," said Wayne Terrell, chief of business operations for the Directorate of Community Activities.

To add to the festivities there will be several inflatable "hoppers" for children to play on. For those a bit more daring, the ever-popular mechanical bull will be available to test your bull-riding capabilities. A disc jockey will also play from 3-5 p.m.

Schedule of events

3 p.m. — Gates Open; food and beverage sales begin, inflatable "hoppers" and bull ride open; disc jockey

5 p.m. — Guest speaker and intro to band

6 p.m. — Concert begins

Best known for their 1979 hit, "The Devil Went Down to Georgia," the Charlie Daniels Band went on to win a Grammy Award, three Country Music Association awards and the Pioneer Award at the 1998 Academy of Country Music's Annual ceremony.

"Charlie's love of music is only surpassed by his love of people, especially the American people," said former President Gerald Ford during the ceremony, according to the band's website.

"For almost five decades he's traveled this land from coast to coast singing about the things that concern the American people. Tonight the Academy of Country Music's Pioneer Award is presented to a supremely talented, compassionate and proud American, and a fair to middlin' golfer, too," Ford said.

Don't miss out on a chance to see this legendary band. Rain or shine, the performance will go on.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photos by Cassandra Kardeke

Wooden, an independent rock band from New York, performs for a small audience at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center April 17.

Band supports troops with free concert

By Cassandra Kardeke

221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Through Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the Wiesbaden community got a chance to hear Wooden perform at the Community Activity Center April 17.

Having toured military installations throughout Europe, this independent rock band from New York put on a great performance.

"We heard them play when they were at Spangdalem and wanted to get another chance to hear them before they headed back to the States," said Kristin Leipert, who drove to Wiesbaden with her friend, Brandie Hall, for one last chance to hear the group before their tour ended.

If you missed their performance, you really missed out on some great music, according to those who attended.

'Made it happen'

"They've come this far as an independent band. Everything they've accomplished they've made it happen themselves," said Marc Alan, tour manager.

With two members who were originally carpenters, the band indeed "made it happen" by building cases and equipment with only as little as two week's notice. "The majority of the equipment they travel with is rather large, but in order to fly on a commercial plane they had to meet size and weight requirements," Alan said. In some cases the band members actually had to rebuild speakers to meet the requirements as well as cases to hold the equipment.

Alan explained that he met lead singer Ethan Isaac while



Ethan Isaac gives a heartfelt performance of the band's song "Gallop," inspired by the events of 9-11.

working at a recording studio in New York over seven years ago. The band then found an old barn/bed and breakfast in upstate New York, purchased the property and renovated it

themselves to give them a place to live and perform.

"These guys did all the work themselves and then created a place where independent bands could perform," Alan said.

With the goal to perform for troops downrange, the band has continuously tried to get on board with the United Service Organizations.

"Unfortunately you have to be a Top 100 band and well known to travel with the USO," said Alan. However, it wasn't until earlier this year they were approached by U.S. Army Entertainment officials after producing their song "Gallop."

Inspired by 9-11, Isaac told the Wiesbaden audience that the band had been practicing not far from the World Trade Center at the time of the terrorist attacks in September 2001. During the evacuation of New York City, the band members were in the last group of people leaving before the bridges and tunnels were closed.

"It was an experience we'll never forget," Isaac said.

The band returned to New York earlier this month, and although they could not perform for troops downrange, they left feeling proud to have performed for the families and troops still in Europe.

"This is a proud, hard-working group of guys. They've made it happen this far and I'm sure they'll get a chance to perform for Soldiers again. Everywhere we go, the families are all telling us that the troops downrange would love us," Alan said.

To find out more information about Wooden, check out their website at Wooden.com.

Soldier looks to politics after service

Story and photo by Pfc. Erik LeDrew

122 Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

On any given day the Soldiers of the Analysis and Control Element with the 1st Armored Division are hard at work filtering through the various threads of information gathered from intelligence sources on potential threats to Iraqi and coalition forces.

One such Soldier is Pvt. Thomas W. Trinkle of Lansing, Kan.

"I'm a signals intelligence analyst," the 19-year-old said. "I mainly write reports that cover all of the intercepted signals of enemy transmissions."

Trinkle, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 501st Military Intelligence Battalion, works in the division's Tactical Operations Center at Baghdad International Airport.

"The ACE platoon is further broken down into sections according to what each person's specific duties are," Trinkle said. "My job mostly entails looking through databases of information and writing briefs for the generals on whatever information I find that is worth bringing to their attention."

Trinkle, who graduated from Advanced Individual Training in October, spent only a month in Wackernheim, the 501st MI's home station, before joining his fellow division



"I think that if I don't try to affect some positive change in government, then what is the point of me believing so much in it?" said Pvt. Thomas W. Trinkle, an intelligence analyst with the 1st Armored Division Analysis and Control Element. Trinkle has aspirations to be a political journalist following the end of his enlistment in the Army.

Soldiers who were already deployed in Baghdad.

While Trinkle has only been in the military for a short while, he has been around it for most of his life.

"Neither of my parents were in the mili-

tary, but I spent most of my childhood in Lansing, Kan., which is about five miles from Fort Leavenworth," he said. "The town's main industry was providing housing for all the military families that worked there."

Trinkle ultimately joined the military for several reasons.

"I joined the military to see the world and get some money for college," he said.

The main reason he enlisted however was his enthusiasm for politics and his ambition to someday have an effect on democracy, he said.

"The primary reason

is because I don't believe someone can have a valid influence in politics unless they understand what Soldiers go through and has actually experienced what it is like," he said.

Trinkle said that while he wants to get into politics, he doesn't want to be a politician, he wants to be a political journalist.

"I want to be able to influence politics through the written word," he said. "Ever since I became interested in politics, my strong belief has always been that governments exist to serve the people."

Trinkle became interested in politics when he was in high school. He studied political

issues while on his high school debate team and student congress.

"I learned in debate to try to look at any given situation from both sides so that when I debate a topic, I can debate it as fairly and evenly as possible," he said. "So I started

looking at some of the things that go on around the world and I saw a lot of corruption. I don't necessarily think democracy is perfect, but it's certainly the best way to allow everyone's voice to be heard."

Trinkle's belief in democracy has

played a part in bringing him into the Army, but now that he's living out his ideals firsthand, he feels it is easy to lose sight of the big picture.

"Something I think a lot of us Soldiers forget, is that when you come here you're not just coming to protect Americans and yourself, you're coming to bring peace and democracy to a country that has been coerced to believe that democracy and Americans are evil," he said. "The point is that if we can bring democracy to what was one of the worst dictatorships in the world, then we can bring it anywhere."

"I don't believe someone can have a valid influence in politics unless they understand what Soldiers go through and has actually experienced what it is like."
—Pvt. Thomas W. Trinkle, HHC, 501st Military Intelligence Battalion

Paintball to be offered at Dexheim's Anderson Barracks

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Splat. Splat. Splat.

A new colorful sport will soon be available in the 221st Base Support Battalion communities — paintball.

The Adventure Experts with Wiesbaden and Dexheim's Out-

door Recreation offices have been busily preparing for the May 1 grand opening of a paintball field at Anderson Barracks in Dexheim.

"The hype over paintball has continuously increased over the years and now we can add it to the long list of activities we have to offer Soldiers, civilians and families in our community," said Joseph

Harris, ODR manager.

Whether you are already an avid fan of paintball or just want to see what it's all about, Outdoor Recreation's staff can ensure you are fully equipped to have an enjoyable time. Various types of paintball markers are available for rent.

Those who already own paintball markers can bring their own equipment, but must ensure it meets with German law requirements.

"All markers must have an F-stamp annotated on it. This means it meets the German law standards," Harris said. For those not familiar with the F-stamp, it is an "F" inside a pentagon shape on the actual marker. Use of markers without this stamp in Germany is illegal. Owners of markers who are unsure of the legalities can bring their equipment to either the Dexheim or Wiesbaden Outdoor Recreation offices to verify if their marker can be used on the field.

Use of outside paint is also prohibited on the playing field, but several varieties of paint balls are available for purchase at the office. Harris recommended wearing long sleeve T-shirts and pants to protect the skin. "Although the paint is not harmful and can be washed off, it can hurt if you are hit too close," he said.

Because paintball is an active and fast-paced sport, it is not recommended for young children. Use of the field is only available for ages 14 and older.

"This sport is perfect in the building of team spirit and cooperation, along with expanding 'esprit de corps' amongst Soldiers and boost-

ing the morale of their families," Harris said.

The grand opening will be held at 10 a.m. May 1 at Anderson Barracks. Music, food and giveaways will be available throughout the day. For more information call mil 337-5760 or 334-5818 or civ (0611) 705-5760.



Photo by Cassandra Kardeke

Balloon shop opening

Express yourself with balloons with the help of the new All Occasion Balloon Center located inside the Community Activity Center at Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Scheduled to open on Mother's Day, May 9, the center has a selection of over 200 mylar and latex balloons for all occasions. Pre-order your Mother's Day balloon arrangements now by calling mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750. Deliveries are not currently available.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

Community news notes

Mother's Day brunch

A Mother's Day Champagne Brunch will be held at the Community Activity Center May 9 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Reservations are required by May 5. Call mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750 for more information.

Help needed for Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts are in need of a new Overseas Committee chairperson. This is a full-time volunteer position. For more information call civ (0611) 174 852.

High school Information

The Gen. H.H. Arnold High School Booster Club will hold elections May 4 at 6 p.m. in the media center. A baccalaureate service will be held June 2 at 7 p.m. at the Hainerberg Chapel.

School registration

Registration for all Wiesbaden schools is now ongoing for the next school year. Even if your child is currently a student, you must register for the upcoming school year. A special registration clinic will be held May 6 at the Youth

Services gym in Hainerberg Housing from noon to 6 p.m. The 55th Personnel Support Battalion will also be on hand to confirm stop loss and stop movement orders. Registration is also available online at www.registration.eu.odedodea.edu. For more information call mil 337-7004 or civ (0611) 705-7004.

Office closure

The Wiesbaden Transportation Office, Transportation Motor Pool and Property Book Office are closed on all U.S. holidays as well as upcoming German holidays May 20-21, May 31 and June 10-11.

Job availability

The WIC Overseas program has an opening for a full-time administrative assistant position in the Wiesbaden WIC office. Fax your resume to mil 338-7836 or civ (0611) 380-7836, or call mil 338-7837, civ (0611) 380-7837 for more information..

Parent meeting

The Wiesbaden Middle School Parent Teacher Association will hold an eighth-grade promotion planning meeting April 29 at 7 p.m. in the media center. All parents are encouraged to attend. The graduation rehearsal will take place June 3



Photo by Jolly A. Slenda

Vowing to stay off drugs

Hainerberg Elementary School students take an oath to stay away from drugs during a DARE graduation ceremony at the Hainerberg Chapel last month. Throughout the school year, Spc. Amanda MacLean, the community DARE officer, educates children on the dangers of drug use and ways to say "No" to drugs.

at 10 a.m. in the Hainerberg Chapel, with the official ceremony taking place June 7 at 6 p.m. A reception will follow. For more information email jenswatson@yahoo.com.

Calling volunteers

Volunteers are currently needed at the USO and at the Educational and Development Intervention Services. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

AFTB for youth

The Army Family Team Building program offers classes and workshops for youth. Upcoming classes include Organizational Skills/Time and Meeting Management, Military Acronymns/Protocol and Flag Etiquette, and Financial Management and Budgeting. Classes are limited to 15 students and are offered at Army Community Service, Room 22, after school. To sign up or

for more information call mil 337-5754 or civ (0611) 705-5754.

Western Union services

Western Union services are now available at the Hainerberg Main Exchange.

Tax assistance

The Tax Assistance Center is available for all Soldiers, civilians and family members to help prepare 2003 tax returns. Located at Heerstrasse 31 in Building 1255, the Tax Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday from 9-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. The office is closed daily from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch. For more information call civ (0611) 705-6506.

Soldier Show slated

The U.S. Army Soldier Show returns to Wiesbaden May 23. The free show will be held at the Taunus Movie Theater in Hainerberg Shopping Center at 7 p.m. The cast is composed of active duty Soldiers performing musical numbers ranging from current country, R&B, rap and rock to Broadway, movie themes and patriotic songs.

Rheinblick Golf Course

Hold your next gathering at the Rheinblick Golf Course. The conference facilities are free when combined with a catering package. Rheinblick also offers unit tournament packages starting at \$20 per person which include lunch, equipment rental and a range token. For more information call mil 336-2816.

Teen sponsor classes

Teens in grades six to 12 are needed to become ambassadors to other teens moving into the 221st Base Support Battalion area. Youth Sponsorship Training is held May 5 at Army Community Service, Building 7790, Room 22 from 3:30-5 p.m. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Bundespost office

The German Post Office at Wiesbaden Army Airfield is open Monday and Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. to mail letters and packages. Customers can no longer pay any bills through the Bundespost office.

BOSS meetings

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meets the first and third Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. at the BOSS Center, Building 1052 at Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

222nd BSB — Baumholder, Neubrück, Strassburg

Missoula Children's Theater on post

The Missoula Children's Theater, one of the largest touring children's theater programs in the world, is coming to Baumholder May 3-8.

The traveling theater comes with stage, equipment, costumes, makeup, props and lighting to put on a quality performance.

All children in kindergarten through 12th grade in the Baumholder military community are invited to audition for parts May 3 at the Baumholder High School Playhouse from 3-5 p.m. About 50 youths will be selected for the play "Red Riding Hood." Practice starts immediately after auditions.

A week of practice follows from 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. daily. Not everyone will need to attend all the rehearsals.

Performances are scheduled for May 8 at 3 and 7 p.m.

May luncheon

The next Baumholder Community Spouses Club luncheon is May 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the Rheinlander Club. This is a date change from previously published information. Reservations must be made via email to cher.lim@us.army.mil.

Qualifying for FSSA

If your household size and income meet certain requirements you may qualify for an increase in the Soldier's Basic Allowance for Subsistence, called the Family Supplemental Subsistence Allowance.

FSSA is designed to keep a service member's household income above the U.S. Department of Agriculture's food stamp qualification guidelines.

Below are the current guidelines for income and family size qualification. The Overseas Housing Allowance ceiling and other allowances are included in determining monthly income.

Household size	Monthly income limit
1	\$1,120
2	\$1,511
3	\$1,902
4	\$2,293
5	\$2,684
6	\$3,075
7	\$3,466
8	\$3,857

For more information or to pre-screen call Army Community Service at mil 485-8188.

Youth of the Year

The 2004 U.S. Army Europe Youth of the Year, Kadeja Gaines from Baumholder, along with teens from each European Area Support Group, will be recognized in a ceremony at the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion in Heidelberg April 29 from

Post notes



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Getting the big picture

Brig. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, 1st Armored Division assistant division commander for support, points out where 1st AD Soldiers are operating in Iraq and explains the mission of the division to Baumholder family members and Family Readiness Groups at a Town Hall Meeting April 20. After his presentation the general fielded questions from the community ranging from Soldier compensation pay and reimbursement of travel packages to block leave and powers of attorney.

noon to 2:30 p.m.

Gaines and her award-winning fellows are being honored as part of this Boys and Girls Clubs of America's national program, designed to recognize top teens based on their academic records, character and service to community.

Honoring nurses

National Nurses Week takes place May 6-12 to honor America's nurses and coincide with Florence Nightingale's birthday, May 12. The Baumholder Health Clinic will host a luncheon for nurses May 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. as a token of appreciation for their selfless service throughout the year.

New traffic laws

Many traffic rules changed in Germany April 1. According to a press release from the Koblenz police headquarters in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate:

Making a call while driving without a "no-hands" phone system will now result in a €40 fine. Because tickets from €40 upwards earn points against your license, making a call with a hand-held mobile phone while driving is now punished with a point too.

Cyclists now pay €25 when they are caught phoning while cycling,

but do not receive a point. U.S. authorities assess two points against a USAREUR license for this offense in Germany.

A fine of €40 is due if you park your car in such a way that it could prevent rescue vehicles from getting through a narrow street.

If somebody manages to go the wrong way around a traffic circle, that will cost €20.

A €40 fine is now the penalty for people who overtake vehicles on highways at a speed that is not significantly higher than that of the vehicle being overtaken. This measure is mainly aimed at the so-called "elephant races" between trucks on the autobahn. The small speed difference becomes a risk for the traffic following and can lead to rear-end collisions.

Various police forces in Germany have announced they will be increasing checks on these various traffic violations during the coming weeks to encourage people to do the right thing and drive safely.

Youth Services

Baumholder Youth Services offers the following activities in May:

May 1, lock-in for Torch Club members only at the Underground, 7 p.m. to 8 a.m.

May 7, dance for high school stu-

dents, sponsored by the Keystone Club, at the Teen Cafe, 7-11 p.m.

May 14, family spaghetti dinner at Neubrück Youth Services, 6-7:30 p.m.

Season opener

Start your season off with a par at the Rolling Hills Golf Course. The season opener will take place May 2 at 9 a.m. with a shotgun format. The cost is \$25 for members and \$25 plus greens fees for non-members. It will be a scramble format tournament. Call the Rolling Hills Golf Course at mil 485-7299 for more information.

Scramble Night

Grip it and rip it Thursday nights at Rolling Hills Golf Course starting May 16 through Sept. 20. Sign up from 3-5:30 p.m. in the Pro-Shop and tee off at 6 p.m. with a shotgun start. The entry fee is \$10. A minimum of 16 people are needed to play. Call the Rolling Hills Golf Course at mil 485-7299 for more information.

Yard sale

Baumholder's semi-annual post wide yard sale will take place May 8 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. All property must be removed from the street by 6 p.m. The sale is open to U.S. identification card holders only. For information call mil 485-6080/7255.

Caslot sale

Mark your calendars for May 28-30. Those are the dates for the annual worldwide commissary caslot sale.

Call the commissary for the two days of those three that they will hold this popular event. Some items will be reduced as much as 60 percent off the regular price.

The sale will include selected grocery, household, health and beauty items, chilled and frozen food and more.

Rolling Hills upgrades course for spring

Improvements set to continue

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava
222nd Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

It's been a long winter but the first signs of spring are finally beginning to show. The weather is gradually warming, flowers are blooming, the grass is getting green and for many, where there's grass, there's golf.

Soon, if not already, golfers will be dusting off their irons and woods, buying a new glove to replace the crusty one that has been tucked away in their golf bag all winter and heading to the driving range to tune up their game after the long winter.

Once there, a totally new facility will be at their disposal. The range is fully renovated and offers indoor and outdoor stations.

"The driving range has 10 indoor stations, 10 outdoor stations, a ball room, bathroom facilities and a pro office. There are signs indicating 50, 100, 150 and 200 yards, and the back of the fence is 250 yards," said David Crawley, golf course manager.

"We have Hugo Butcher, our German PGA pro [in our pro shop], who gives lessons during the summer and conducts junior clinics," he said.

New tee boxes

After a warmup at the driving range, it's off to the course for the first round of the season. Not that it would deter an avid golfer from playing, but for now, golfers will have to tee off from temporary tees throughout the course. "Right now, the tee boxes are being renovated. There will be new sod laid on them. They've just been completely reworked," said Crawley.

"The number six tee box, which is the tee box that everybody sees when they come in from the school gate has been raised one meter. Some of the tee boxes have been straightened out so they point toward the fairways a little bit more and generally leveled out," he said.

"Construction time? We should be done by the middle of this month, with the tee boxes opening June 5. We're going to open them up in conjunction with the welcome home tournament," said Crawley.

222nd BSB awarded \$50,000

The 222nd Base Support Battalion cashed in on \$50,000 for finishing third in the annual Army Communities of Excellence competition among 166 active and Reserve Army components.

This puts Baumholder in the prestigious category of being the third best Army installation in the world. Fort Stewart, Ga., and the 417th Base Support Battalion at Kitzingen finished first and second respectively.

"Annual ACOE competition is based on the Army Performance Improvement Criteria, a set of criteria measuring the quality of an organization similar to ISO 9000 in Europe," said Sean Lambur, 222nd BSB quality program manager.



The criteria measured the 222nd BSB's effectiveness in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, customer and market knowledge, information and analysis, human resources management, process management and organizational performance results.

"We are very pleased with our accomplishment, but we intend to perform even better next year. This award speaks to the superb quality of our German and American work force here in Baumholder," said Lambur.

"We began a long journey to this award back in 1995 when we established consistent strategic planning. Today our success lies in our clearly defined organizational mission

statement, our vision for the community, a firm but supportive command philosophy, our performance analysis and our five strategic goals," he said.

"Meanwhile we are preparing our competition for the Army's newest and highest award, the Army Performance Excellence Award in fall 2004. This award and competition is open to only the best Army organizations, regardless of whether they are associated with installation management," said Lambur.

Representatives from the 222nd BSB will corroborate with customers and community members in deciding how to best use the prize money.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

David Crawley, golf course manager, inspects the progress of two tee boxes overlooking the town of Baumholder. The grand opening for the new tee boxes is scheduled for June 15.

Around several fairways much of the brush has been cleared off, giving the course a more spacious appearance. One or two strategic areas have been left in their natural state to discourage golfers from shooting over the brush and shortening the hole.

A course challenge

The short number three hole has also evolved into a course challenge. Although the brush behind the pin has been cleared, it has been replaced with a ball-hungry bunker. Try to muscle this hole and you'll be guaranteed a soft landing in the sand or an even more difficult shot out of the rough beyond the bunker.

There is more in store for the Rolling Hills Golf Course in the coming months. "In the

very near future there will be an irrigation project done on the fairways. There will be a reservoir added on the number one hole, which will be in play," said Crawley.

This will eventually present golfers with three water hazards they must avoid. The reservoir will be more than just a water hazard. It will be used to store the water that will be used to irrigate the course. For now, the irrigation project will include only the first four holes, explained Crawley. "Watering the course with hoses can be an all day project for at least one or two people. The reservoir and irrigation project will make watering the course and keeping it green much easier," said Crawley.

Although it's still early in the season,

golfers may have to wait to tee off on the weekends if they don't call for a tee time in advance. "We request that everybody make tee times on the weekends," said Crawley. Golfers can still play on weekdays without scheduling a tee time. "Our fees are broken down by pay grades and we offer tournaments throughout the year. For example, we have scrambles starting May 6," he said.

"It's a great nine-hole facility to play. And everybody seems to enjoy the course," he said. The course is now open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. so if the golfing bug has already bit and you find your self demonstrating a perfect golf swing with an "air club" at the office, put a real club in your hands, take it outside and see how good your swing really is.

Baumholder third in annual, Army-wide test

Two Family Child Care providers accredited

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Two Baumholder child care providers, Nekesha Faulk and Michelle Lammers, received accreditation from the Military Family Child Care

Home Accreditation organization April 14.

Since both were busy caring for children, Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, visited both in their homes and presented them with their certificates and a 222nd BSB coin. Also

present was Sonia Bonet, Installation Management Agency-Europe Child and Youth Services chief; Cecilia Kandler, 104th Area Support Group Child and Youth Services director; and Joanne Hernandez, 222nd BSB CYS chief.

Lammers began as an FCC pro-

vider in Baumholder May 3, 2002, and Faulk started as an FCC provider in Baumholder Dec. 10, 2002.

MHA accreditation is not as easy to achieve as one might think. Child care providers must have provided child care in their homes for at least two years before being considered for accreditation.

Baumholder has 16 Family Child Care providers, but only Faulk and Lammers are accredited. The standard for accredited child care providers is one per military community so Baumholder exceeded the standard in just one afternoon. Faulk and Lammers are two of about 24 accredited child care providers throughout Europe.

"It's difficult to comply with accreditation standards because many providers do not stay in one place for that long," said Joanne Hernandez, Baumholder child development center manager. "It takes at least two years before they can be accredited," she said. After accreditation, though, they receive a one-time subsidy of \$750.

In order to take care of children in government quarters, a person must be certified by CYS. Steps to becoming a certified FCC provider include:

- Completing an application;
- Receiving clear background checks;
- Attending about 40 hours of initial training and ongoing training thereafter;
- Pass a home fire and safety inspection; and
- Be inspected/visited by staff from Family Child Care.

All of Baumholder's providers are certified and fully qualified to provide child care in their homes,

but only two are accredited.

"As part of the child care program improvement plan the military services have supported center accreditation and now actively support accreditation for family child care homes, because they recognize that care of equal quality needs to be available in centers and family child care homes," said Hernandez.

The Military Home Accreditation for Family Child Care includes the following five steps, which take about six months to complete:

• The candidate must meet certain prerequisites such as be at least 18 years old, have a high school diploma or GED and have 18 months experience as an FCC provider, including training and basic certification before starting the accreditation process. Candidates must have 90 hours of documented training.

• The accreditation process is a comprehensive self study completed by the candidate and submitted to the accrediting agency.

• A trained validator (observer) visits the FCC home to conduct a validation visit and verify that the self study submitted by the candidate is accurate. The paperwork is then submitted to the accrediting agency.

• The accreditation decision is made by the accrediting agency. Information from the self study and the validation visit form is used as the basis for the decision to accredit or not.

• Accreditation is for about three years, if no major changes occur, such as the FCC provider moves to a different post. Reaccreditation requires a procedure similar to that completed for initial accreditation.



Photos by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

Lt. Col. Todd A. Buchs, 222nd Base Support Battalion commander, congratulates Michelle Lammers for achieving child care provider accreditation while Joanne Hernandez, 222nd BSB CYS chief, looks on. Photo below: Buchs presents a battalion coin to Kedesha Faulk after congratulating her for earning child care provider accreditation.



Wetzel celebrates reading

A command sergeant major defending a wolf and a school principal adorned in a bright red and white top hat reciting rhymes like the Cat in the Hat were but a couple of the sights Wetzel Elementary School students and parents were treated to at the school's recent Family Reading Night.

Command Sgt. Major Ann McDaniels, 222nd Base Support Battalion, began the evening with a spirited reading of Jon Scieszka's "The True Story of the Three Little Pigs," which relates the wolf's version of the traditional tale.

Debbie Brooks, Wetzel Elementary School principal, donned a red and white striped hat to share the classic "The Cat in the Hat."

Families enjoyed hot chocolate and parent-donated cookies dur-

ing the story time. Following the readings, students and parents moved from room to room to participate in reading games led by Wetzel teachers.

Prekindergartners to sixth-graders had the choice of attending sessions with titles such as Crazy Make a Sentence, Go Fish, Concentration with Sight Words and Bingo with Synonyms and Antonyms.

Family Reading Night was the brainchild of Amy Poole, Wetzel reading and language arts specialist, and was held to promote the importance of the school and home working together as partners to help children achieve in reading.

"It was very exciting to see so many Wetzel families reading and enjoying literature together," said Poole.

Voting assistance available to all

This is an election year and unit voting assistance officers and the 222nd Base Support Battalion voting assistance officer are available to assist Soldiers and family mem-

bers in completing a State Voter Registration Application.

Unfortunately, voting assistance officers can not tell you which state you should register in. Where

you register to vote is a personnel decision based on which state you normally claim as your legal residence.

In situations where you are not

sure of your state of legal residence (normally listed on your Leave and Earnings Statement) or if you want to change your legal residence in order to register in another location, you should contact the Legal Office and have them help you determine which state you are eligible to register to vote in.

Once you have decided, your unit or battalion voting assistance officers are available to help you complete the Federal Postcard Application.

The one-stop-shop resource for all voting information, publications, forms and other guidance is www.fvap.gov. At this site, community members can receive all necessary information pertaining to their state's voting procedures as well as download any and all necessary forms and publications.

If your unit does not currently have a voting assistance officer, your brigade, Division Artillery and battalion voting assistance points of contact are:

- ☛ **2nd Brigade**, 2nd Lt. Owen Banks, mil 485-6239
- ☛ **1-6th Infantry**, mil 485-6102
- ☛ **2-6th Infantry**, SSG Nathan Olcott, mil 485-6239
- ☛ **40th Engineers**, 1st Lt. Edan Olson, mil 485-7523
- ☛ **1-35th Armor**, Staff Sgt.

Shane Battles, mil 485-7307

☛ **47th Forward Support Battalion**, Sgt. 1st Class Felicia Grant, mil 485-7577

☛ **Division Artillery**, Sgt. Jose Martinez, mil 485-6288

☛ **1-94th Field Artillery**, Staff Sgt. Heath Barr, mil 485-4500

☛ **4-27th Field Artillery**, 1st Lt. Christian Labra, mil 485-6269

☛ **90th Personnel Service Battalion**, Capt. Phillip Burns, mil 485-6916

☛ **Detachment A, 90th Personnel Service Battalion**, 2nd Lt. Erika Stevenson, mil 485-6618

☛ **8th Finance Battalion**, 2nd Lt. Paul Sells, mil 485-6979

☛ **92nd Military Police**, 2nd Lt. Andrea Leaman, mil 485-6767

☛ **Health Clinic**, 2nd Lt. David Kory, mil 485-1750

☛ **Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 222nd Base Support Battalion**, Sgt. 1st Class Damon Draught, mil 485-7255.

Unit voting assistance officers can receive information, publications and forms from the community voting assistance officer, Master Sgt. Lester Reed, during normal duty hours in Building 8876 on Wetzels. Call him at mil 485-7138.

The second community voting assistance officer is Michaelene Tyler, mil 485-7557.



Honoring slain Soldiers

A memorial service was held at the Baumholder Chapel April 12 for **Staff Sgt. George S. Rentschler**, 31, of Louisville, Ky., who died April 7 in Baghdad, Iraq, when his military vehicle was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade.

He is survived by his wife Rachael and two sons, Brock and Scott.

Rentschler was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 35th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Division, in support of Operation Iraqi Free-

dom.

Staff Sgt. Don S. McMahan, 31, of Nashville, Tenn., died April 9 in Baghdad, Iraq, when individuals using rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire attacked his convoy.

McMahan was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery, 1st Armored Division, in Baumholder. He is survived by his wife Shelba, sons Evan and Seth, and daughter Sarah.

McMahan was supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.